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Essays on the Life and Work of Newton. AUGUSTUS DE MORGAN. Edited, with notes and appendices, by PHILIP E. B. JOURDAIN. Chicago and London: The Open Court Publishing Company. 1914. Pp. xi + 198.

Praise should be accorded to both editor and publishers of this little volume for having made accessible to the general reader De Morgan's three incisive and brilliant essays on Newton, all of which are now very rare. The first essay here reprinted is a sketch of Newton's life which appeared in 1846 in "The Cabinet Portrait Gallery of British Worthies"; the second was written in 1852 for the "Companion to the Almanac," and deals with "Discoveries Relative to the Controversy on the Invention of Fluxions"; the third is a critical review of Brewster's "Memoirs of Newton" (1855), published by De Morgan the same year in the *North British Review.* To the last-named essay the editor has added as appendices an extract from De Morgan's biography of Leibniz which appeared anonymously in 1836, and a fragment from his book "Newton: his Friend: and his Niece" (1885). A very important contribution by the editor, aside from his numerous and valuable notes, is an appendix on the manuscripts and publications of Newton and Leibniz. It contains a list, in chronological order, of the most significant works relating to the memorable controversy about the invention of the differential or fluxional calculus. The student of this controversy will find helpful references to the history of the infinitesimal ideas prior to Newton and Leibniz, to the manuscripts and publications of these two thinkers on the invention of the calculus, and to some of the important works on their controversy.

The essays show De Morgan as a lucid stylist and judicious biographer. Biography for him is no "act of worship." While recognizing that Newton "is the greatest of philosophers, and one of the best of men" (p. 63), his hero is not "*all* hero." Although "the *Principia* would neutralize greater faults than Newton's" (p. 140), De Morgan is at pains to point out the grave defects in Newton's character, chief of which was "a morbid fear of opposition from others" (p. 37). To this "morbid fear" the biographer attributes Newton's treatment of Leibniz, of Flamsteed, and of Whiston, "in each case, a stain upon his memory" (p. 39). And to the same fear is to be ascribed his tendency to keep to himself his great inventions and discoveries. "A discovery of Newton," as De Morgan says, "was of a twofold character—he made it, and then others had to find out that he had made it" (p. 38). Most of his works had to be "extorted" from him by his friends, as it were; his famous views on universal gravitation, for instance, "would have remained his own secret if Halley and the Royal Society had not used the utmost force they could command" (p. 38). Newton seemed to have regarded his researches as ministering to his private satisfaction only, and it appears that "he expected all his discoveries to be received without opposition" (p. 135).

Newton's morbid fear of opposition, coupled with a "morbid suspicion of others," underlay, according to De Morgan, his highly unjust conduct in his controversy with Leibniz. De Morgan proves at great length, with the aid of unimpeachable documentary evidence, that Leibniz was the independent co-inventor of the differential calculus, called by Newton the method of fluxions. And he goes much further than this when he asserts that, instead of Leibniz having derived any specific information of Newton's discovery, "Newton did derive from Leibniz (without being aware of the extent of his obligation, we think) the idea of the permanent use of an organized mode of mathematical expression" (p. 32). Be this as it may, Newton's entire conduct in the controversy,—the deliberate suppression from the third edition of the *Principia* of the famous scholium in which the independent discovery of Leibniz had previously been acknowledged; the "concoction" of the *Commercium Epistolicum,* for the materials of which De Morgan finds Newton himself as the real source; the unfair dealing with the correspondence that had passed between himself and Leibniz when he heard of the latter's death,—would indeed appear to give abundant proof "of an unhappy temper which sometimes overcame his moral feeling" (p. 45).

The controversy between Newton and Leibniz dominates most of the discussion throughout the essays. The zeal with which De Morgan enters upon his task of clearing Leibniz from the charge of plagiarism may not have entirely been detached in his mind from a subjective interest. He well knew what it meant to have the independence of a discovery questioned. It is interesting to recall that the same year which saw the publication of De Morgan's first essay on Newton also witnessed his controversy with Sir W. R. Hamilton regarding the priority of his own discovery of the logical principle of the quantification of the predicate.

While the clear and judicious analysis of Newton's character and the detailed and fair account of the controversy with Leibniz form the most significant contribution of these essays, both the student of Newton and the general reader will find in them much more that is of interest and value. The frontispiece, from an engraving by E. Scriven of Vanderbank's portrait of Newton, adds to the attractiveness of the volume.

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A History of Psychology. OTTO KLEMM. Translated by Emil Carl Wilm and Rudolf Pintner. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1911. Pp. xiv + 380.

In 1911 the "History" appeared in German and was reviewed at length in this JOURNAL[1] by Professor R. S. Woodworth. The present reviewer, therefore, finds only a few words necessary in regard to the present translation. Professor Wilm has translated Chapters I.–VI. and Professor Pintner Chapters VII.–XII. There is evidence that much care has been taken and the result is a smooth English, which it is a pleasure to read. There has been a search for the proper translation of the technical terms and where there is the possibility of a misunderstanding the German word is given in parenthesis.

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[1] This JOURNAL, Vol. IX., pages 218–220.